

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 25

Introduced by Assembly Member Kelley
(Coauthor: Senator Battin)

February 21, 2001

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 25—Relative to the Sonny Bono Memorial Freeway.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 25, as introduced, Kelley. Sonny Bono Memorial Freeway.

This measure would designate the Coachella Valley portion of Interstate 10 from a point just west of the State Highway 111 cutoff in the Palm Springs area to a point at the bottom of the grade east of the City of Coachella as the Sonny Bono Memorial Freeway in honor and recognition of Sonny Bono. The measure also would request the Department of Transportation to determine the cost for appropriate signs showing this special designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources covering that cost, to erect those signs.

Fiscal committee: yes.

- 1 WHEREAS, The life of Sonny Bono exemplifies the
2 opportunities offered to everyone in the United States; and
3 WHEREAS, Sonny Bono left his boyhood home in Detroit,
4 Michigan, for Hollywood, California, at a young age to become a
5 star in show business; and
6 WHEREAS, His quest led him to a laborer's job as a meat truck
7 driver and deliveryman and then in promotions for a record
8 company; and

1 WHEREAS, Sonny Bono parlayed those jobs into an
2 opportunity to showcase his ability as a showman and entertainer;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, Those talents eventually led to a career of fame as
5 a recording and television star, enabling him to touch the hearts of
6 millions of people throughout the world; and

7 WHEREAS, Sonny Bono pursued another dream as a restaurant
8 owner in Palm Springs; and

9 WHEREAS, His concern on behalf of his community as a
10 businessman led him to public service eventually leading to his
11 election as Mayor of Palm Springs in 1988; and

12 WHEREAS, As Mayor of Palm Springs, Sonny Bono energized
13 the city and enabled the community to enhance its national and
14 international prominence as a leader in business and tourism; and

15 WHEREAS, Sonny Bono's public service career eventually led
16 him to the halls of the Congress of the United States in 1994 as the
17 Representative from the Coachella Valley and Western Riverside
18 County areas of southern California; and

19 WHEREAS, Sonny Bono's leadership ability as a Congressman
20 benefited the Coachella Valley, Western Riverside County, and
21 much of the Inland Empire; and

22 WHEREAS, Sonny Bono's achievements as a Congressman
23 brought needed national attention to the environmental needs of
24 the Salton Sea; and

25 WHEREAS, Sonny Bono tirelessly worked on behalf of his
26 constituents bringing the needed federal funding for transportation
27 and infrastructure projects for the Coachella Valley; and

28 WHEREAS, His efforts to improve transportation led to
29 funding for significant highway improvements throughout the
30 Coachella Valley and Riverside County; and

31 WHEREAS, Although Sonny Bono's career and life were
32 tragically cut short by an accident, the memories of his leadership
33 and values continue to positively shape progress throughout
34 California; and

35 WHEREAS, It is fitting that the Legislature of the State of
36 California honors the memory of Congressman Sonny Bono, and
37 conveys the Legislature's appreciation for the Congressman's
38 legacy and life of public service on behalf of California; and

39 WHEREAS, It would be a fitting tribute to Sonny Bono to name
40 the Coachella Valley portion of Interstate 10 from a point just west



1 of the State Highway 111 cutoff in the Palm Springs area to a point
2 at the bottom of the grade east of the City of Coachella as the Sonny
3 Bono Memorial Freeway; now, therefore, be it

4 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
5 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature hereby designates the
6 Coachella Valley portion of Interstate 10, from a point just west of
7 the State Highway 111 cutoff in the Palm Springs area to a point
8 at the bottom of the grade east of the City of Coachella, the Sonny
9 Bono Memorial Freeway in honor and recognition of Sonny Bono;
10 and be it further

11 *Resolved*, That the Department of Transportation is hereby
12 requested to determine the cost of appropriate plaques and
13 markers, consistent with the signing requirements for the state
14 highway system, showing this special designation and, upon
15 receiving donations from nonstate sources covering the cost, to
16 erect those plaques and markers; and be it further

17 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
18 of this resolution to the Director of Transportation and to the
19 author for distribution.

